

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on May 30, 2008.

Claims 1 and 7 are amended, and claim 17 is canceled; as a result, claims 1-11 are now pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 17 was allowed. Applicant has added the subject matter of allowable claim 17 to parent claim 1.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lion (U.S. 6,330,491) in view of Takamatsu et al. (U.S. 4,567,358).

Claims 1-6

Applicant has added the subject matter of allowable claim 17 to parent claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1-6 are now in allowable form. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-11

Applicant has amended claim 7 to include similar subject matter as allowable claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant believes claims 7-11 are now patentable in view of the cited references. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 359-3267 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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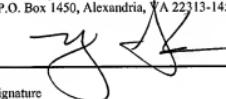
Date 7/30/08

By Peter C. Maki

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 30th day of July, 2008.

Mary Saunders
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Signature